PAPs have shifted voluntarily after accepting benefits as per R&R policy of NTPC and agreed Rehabilitation Action Plan. None of the persons has been forcefully relocated as alleged in the press report.

Updating of land records

1623. SHRI BHAGBAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the various steps taken by Government for updating and maintenance of land records in the country;

(b) the progress of updating State-wise; and

(c) the year by which it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RUAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The Government of India have been executing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes through Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment for updation and maintenance of land records in the country, namely (a) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updation of Land Records (SRA & ULR) since 1987-88, and (b) Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records since 1988-89.

(b) and (c) Some States like West Bengal have completed the revisional survey settlement operation a few years back. Some States have completed survey settlement operation in major parts of the concerned State like the States of Madhya Pradesh and Kerala. Some States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh etc. are planning to take up revisional survey settlement operation afresh.

It is, however, quite difficult to express the status of updation of land records as it has multiple connotations and dimensions. The legal system as well as the administrative arreangement for land revenue and land records maintenance are variant in different states of the country. However, in majority of the States there is a village level revenue official, which are known as patwari, talathi, village administrative officer, etc. who have been delegated the power of constat updation of land records, correction of cadestral maps and execution of undisputed mutation. In such states the land records are available in fairly updated situation.

It is important to note that this Ministry, through its 100% grant-in-aid Scheme for Computerisation of Land Records have brought all States under its coverage and the projects are working in 528 Districts of India.

The Scheme aims at bringing the basic land records including cadastral maps into a system of constent updation on-line management of land records ensuring instant service facilities and this programme of computerisation of Land Record is expected to be completed within 9th Plan period.

Rural unemployment

1624. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the latest estimates of rural unemployment in our country as on 1st May, 1998;

(b) what steps are being taken to reduce the rate of rural unemployment; and

(c) how do our measures compare with other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The rural unemployment is estimated by Natioal Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) through its quinquennial surveys. The estimate of rural unemployment as per the latest 50th round